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to bring every subject down to the date of publication of the successive volumes, in the affluence of the biography of living subjects, and in the absence of personal partiality and partisan bias, as well as in the full treatment of topics which have a peculiarly American interest, this Cyclopædia claims the precedence of all others; while the great English and European works of the same class have their respective merits, in which each may in like manner claim to have no rival. We have made constant use of the volumes as they have appeared, and our appreciation of the work has grown with our experience of its value, and with the frequent comparison which we have been led to make between its articles and corresponding titles in other cyclopædias.

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32. — *The History, Civil, Political, and Military, of the Southern Rebellion, from its Incipient Stages to its Close. Comprehending, also, all important State Papers, Ordinances of Secession, Proclamations, Proceedings of Congress, Official Reports of Commanders, etc., etc.* By ORVILLE J. VICTOR. Volumes I. and II. New York: James D. Torrey. 8vo. pp. 531, 537.

THE prime merit of these massive volumes is their closely historical and documentary character. They are less a history than a compend of authentic materials for future history. They seem to be based wholly on official reports and ascertained and admitted facts. They give at suitable intervals condensed summaries of events, and they are provided each with a full and copious alphabetical index. The second volume brings the history down to February 1, 1862. Materials for two or three other volumes must by this time have been accumulated; how many more will be required to bring the conflict to its "close," we may be better able to conjecture when these sheets appear than at this moment of writing, while the great issues in the Southwest remain undecided.

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33. — *Grape Culture, Wines, and Wine-making. With Notes upon Agriculture and Horticulture.* By A. HARASZTHY, Commissioner to report on the Improvement and Culture of the Vine in California. With Numerous Illustrations. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1862. 8vo. pp. 420.

ABOUT one third of this volume is occupied with the journal of a European tour undertaken in the service of the State of California, to which is added a chapter giving the results of the author's observation and experience in their application to the grape-culture in California.